## REMARKS

The foregoing Preliminary Amendment is requested in order to delete the multiple dependent claims and avoid paying the multiple dependent claims fee.

Early action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACOBSON HOLMAN PLLC

John C. Holman

Reg No. 22,769

400 Seventh Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20004-2201 (202) 638-6666

Atty. Docket: P71443US0 Date: September 15, 2006

JCH/gc